

this being partly converted into nitrogen dioxide with atmospheric oxygen by an equilibrium reaction. As soon as there is nitrogen monoxide in the reactor, measurement of the time is started.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

## Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Amended) Process for the reduction of harmful gases in gas mixture from pyrotechnic reactions, comprising vaporizing at least one additive selected from the group consisting of urea and urea derivatives during pyrotechnic reaction by the heat generated in the pyrotechnic reaction and converting the harmful gases into non-toxic compounds in a homogeneous gas phase reaction.

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- 2. (Amended) Process for the reduction of harmful gases in gas mixtures from pyrotechnic reactions according to claim 1, wherein the at least one additive has a melting point > 105°C and vaporizes below 400°C.
- 3. (Amended) Process for the reduction of harmful gases in gas mixtures from pyrotechnic reactions according to claim 1, wherein the at least on additive is selected from the group consisting of urea, N-formylurea, N,N'-dimethylurea and N,N-dimethylurea.
- 4. (Amended) Agent for pyrotechnic gas generation, comprising a gas-generating substance, and an additive selected from the group consisting of urea and urea derivatives which vaporizes due to the heat generated in the pyrotechnic reaction.
- 5. (Amended) Agent for pyrotechnic gas generation according to claim 4, wherein the at least one additive chosen has a melting point > 105°C and vaporizes below 400°C.
- 6. (Amended) Agent for pyrotechnic gas generation according to claim 4, wherein the

at least one additive is selected from the group consisting of urea, N-formylurea, N,N'-dimethylurea and N,N-dimethylurea.

- 7. (Amended) Agent for pyrotechnic gas generation according to claim 4, wherein at least one component of the gas-generating substance is coated with the at least one additive.
- 8. (Amended) In a device for pyrotechnic gas generation, the improvement comprising at least one additive selected from the group consisting of urea and urea derivatives introduced into the flow path of the working gas.
- 9. (Amended) Device for pyrotechnic gas generation according to claim 8, wherein the additive has a melting point >105°C and vaporizes below 400°C.
- 10. (Amended) Device for pyrotechnic gas generation according to claim 8, wherein the at least one additive is selected from the group consisting of urea, N-formylurea, N,N'-dimethylurea and N,N-dimethylurea.

## **IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please amend the abstract to read as follows: